



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
4 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 21 (b)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Emergency humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia

The General Assembly,

Noting with concern the recurrent drought that affects Ethiopia and its consequences,

Recalling the Secretary-General's initiative of 13 September 2000 to improve food security in the Horn of Africa over the long term,

Gravely concerned by the magnitude of the current drought, which may affect up to fifteen million people due to the serious crop failures in drought-prone parts of the country that have weak infrastructures and low development capacities,

Bearing in mind the 2003 appeal for emergency assistance for Ethiopia, launched on 6 December 2002 by the United Nations and the Government of Ethiopia, to respond to the looming famine situation and to prevent the imminent humanitarian crisis,

Noting with serious concern the dire humanitarian situation and its long-term socio-economic and environmental impact,

Emphasizing the need to address the crisis bearing in mind the importance of the transition from relief to development, and acknowledging the underlying structural causes for the recurrent famine in Ethiopia,



Recognizing that the main responsibility for improving the humanitarian situation and creating conditions for long-term development lies with the Government of Ethiopia, while bearing in mind the important role played by the international community,

1. *Calls upon* the international community to urgently and effectively respond to the unfolding and imminent humanitarian crisis, which may affect up to fifteen million people in the country, consisting of crop producers and pastoralists;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Ethiopia, the international community and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to strengthen mechanisms already in place to respond to such emergency situations;

3. *Also welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to tackle the recurrent drought in the country on a long-term basis, and in this regard *calls* for its serious consideration by the relevant organizations;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to respond as a matter of urgency to the crisis, based on the requirements of the 2003 appeal for emergency assistance for Ethiopia covering food and non-food needs as well as to the urgent needs of programme interventions in early 2003, addressing issues of recovery, asset protection and sustainable development of the chronically affected areas;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Ethiopia to increase the availability of food through domestic production, to ensure access to food for households in need and to strengthen emergency response capabilities;

6. *Invites* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue considering ways to enhance the mobilization of emergency relief assistance for Ethiopia;

7. *Calls upon* all development partners to stress the need to integrate relief efforts with recovery, asset protection and long-term development and to address the underlying structural causes for the recurrent famine in Ethiopia, inter alia, in line with the poverty reduction strategy paper, including strategies aimed at preventing future such crises that improve the resilience of the population;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
18 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 21 (b)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

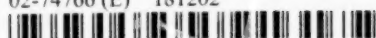
Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Emergency humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, France, Gambia, Ghana, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Liberia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain and Turkey





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
6 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 168

International Year of Rice, 2004

**Madagascar, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Tajikistan:
draft resolution**

International Year of Rice, 2004

The General Assembly,

Noting that rice is the staple food of more than half of the world's population,

Affirming the need to heighten awareness of the interrelationship between poverty, food security, malnutrition and rice,

Convinced that global focus on the role of rice is crucial to ensuring global food security, poverty alleviation and the attainment of the Millennium development goals,

Convinced further that concerted efforts should focus on addressing issues and challenges brought about by problems of declining productivity, depletion of natural resources and environment and losses of biodiversity in present rice production systems,

1. *Decides* to declare the year 2004 the International Year of Rice;
2. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the implementation of the International Year of Rice, in collaboration with Governments, the United Nations Development Programme, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research Centres and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations.





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
12 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 168

International Year of Rice, 2004

Burkina Faso, Cyprus, Gambia, Guyana, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tajikistan and Thailand: revised draft resolution

International Year of Rice

The General Assembly,

Recalling resolution 2/2001 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Noting that rice is the staple food of more than half of the world's population,

Affirming the need to heighten awareness of the role of rice in alleviating poverty and malnutrition,

Reaffirming the need to focus world attention on the role that rice can play in providing food security and eradicating poverty in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration,¹

1. *Decides* to declare the year 2004 the International Year of Rice;
2. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the implementation of the International Year of Rice, in collaboration with Governments, the United Nations Development Programme, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research Centres and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations.

¹ See resolution 55/2.





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 168

International Year of Rice, 2004

Burkina Faso, Cyprus, Gambia, Guyana, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tajikistan and Thailand: revised draft resolution

International Year of Rice, 2004

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Fiji, Gabon, Grenada, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nauru, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Togo, Viet Nam and Zambia





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
9 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 23

United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage

Argentina, Belarus, Canada, China, Egypt, Greece, Guatemala, Italy, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mali, Monaco, Morocco, New Zealand, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia and Ukraine:
draft resolution

United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002

The General Assembly,

Recalling the international conventions dealing with the protection of cultural and natural heritage, including the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict adopted at The Hague in 1954¹ and the two Protocols thereto, the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,² and the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,³ as well as the 1989 Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore⁴ and the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of 2001,⁵

Welcoming the ratification of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage by one hundred and seventy-five State parties and noting the inscription of more than seven hundred and thirty sites on the World Heritage List,

Mindful of the importance of protecting world cultural tangible and intangible heritage as a common ground for the promotion of mutual understanding and enrichment among cultures and civilizations,

Bearing in mind the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,⁶ which calls for actions to promote sustainable tourism development in order to increase the benefits from tourism resources for the

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

² *Ibid.*, vol. 823, No. 11806.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 1037, No. 15511.

⁴ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-fifth Session, Paris, 17 October-16 November 1989*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, annex I.B.

⁵ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October-3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, resolution 25, annex I.

⁶ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.



population in host communities while maintaining the cultural and environmental integrity of these communities and enhancing the protection of ecologically sensitive areas and natural heritages by, inter alia, intensifying international cooperation,

Noting the work already undertaken to protect the world cultural and natural heritage by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, including the international campaigns,

Taking into consideration the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 2002,

Taking note of the decision taken by the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its 164th session with regard to the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002,⁷

Recalling its resolution 56/8 of 21 November 2001, in which it proclaimed 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage and invited the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to serve as the lead agency for the year,

1. *Declares* the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage concluded;
2. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in collaboration with States, observers, relevant United Nations bodies, within their respective mandates, other international organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, to continue to intensify the implementation of programmes, activities and projects aimed at the promotion and protection of the world cultural heritage;
3. *Also invites* Member States and observers to continue to promote education and raise public awareness to foster respect for national and world cultural heritage;
4. *Reaffirms* the importance of further developing international mechanisms for safeguarding and protecting the world cultural heritage, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to explore ways to intensify international cooperation in this regard, inter alia, by considering the merits of convening an international conference on strengthening and consolidating international mechanisms for safeguarding and protecting the world cultural heritage;
5. *Invites* the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to address and present to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session an overview of the activities undertaken during the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage;
6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage".

⁷ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Decisions Adopted by the Executive Board at its 164th Session, Paris, 21-30 May 2002* (164 EX/Decisions), decision 7.1.2.





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 23

United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage

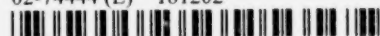
Argentina, Belarus, Canada, China, Egypt, Greece, Guatemala, Italy, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mali, Monaco, Morocco, New Zealand, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia and Ukraine:
draft resolution

United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Bangladesh, France, Indonesia, Madagascar, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Thailand, Yemen and Zambia





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
10 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 21 (a)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, which contains in its annex the guiding principles for strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, and its resolutions 54/233 of 22 December 1999, 55/163 of 14 December 2000, 56/103 of 14 December 2001 and 56/195 of 21 December 2001, and recalling agreed conclusions 1998/1 and 1999/1 of the Economic and Social Council and its resolution 2002/32 of 26 July 2002,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development,¹

Deeply concerned by the increasing number and scale of disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, as well as in long-term consequences, especially severe for developing countries,

¹ A/57/578.



Reaffirming that the sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity of States must be fully respected in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. In this context, humanitarian assistance should be provided with the consent of the affected country and in principle on the basis of an appeal by the affected country,

Reaffirming also that each State has the responsibility first and foremost to take care of the victims of natural disasters and other emergencies occurring on its territory. Hence, the affected State has the primary role in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory,

Recognizing the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Emphasizing the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts in order to minimize the impact of disasters,

Noting the critical role played by local rescuers in natural disaster response as well as existing in-country capacities,

Emphasizing the importance of timely, coordinated and technically sound international assistance provided in close coordination with the receiving State, in particular in the field of urban search and rescue following earthquakes and other events resulting in structural collapse,

Noting with appreciation, in this respect, the important contribution made by international urban search and rescue teams in the aftermath of disasters, which helped to reduce loss of life and human suffering,

Commending the work of the United Nations Disaster Assistance and Coordination teams in facilitating rapid need assessments and assisting Member States to organize the on-site coordination of international urban search and rescue operations,

Concerned about the procedural requirements applicable to movement of foreign nationals and equipment to and within a country that may impinge on the timely acceptance, deployment to the disaster site, and activities of international urban search and rescue teams,

Also concerned that an additional burden may be placed on the resources of the affected countries by those international urban search and rescue teams which are inadequately trained or equipped,

Noting the efforts made by Member States, facilitated by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance,

Noting also that the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is identifying the current state of international law relating to disaster response for a report to be presented to States and national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies at the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in December 2003, and emphasizing the need for intergovernmental oversight of this process, particularly with regard to its principles, scope and objectives,

Recognizing, in this regard, the Guidelines developed by the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, as a flexible and helpful reference tool for disaster preparedness and response efforts,

1. *Stresses* the need to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, with the aim of contributing towards saving more human lives;

2. *Encourages* efforts aiming at the strengthening of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group and its regional groups, particularly through the participation in its activities of representatives from a larger number of countries;

3. *Urges* all States, consistent with their applicable measures relating to public safety and national security, to simplify or reduce, as appropriate, the customs and administrative procedures related to the entry, transit, stay and exit of international urban search and rescue teams and their equipment and materials, taking into account the Guidelines of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, particularly concerning visas for the rescuers and the quarantining of their animals, utilization of air space and the import of search and rescue and technical communications equipment necessary drugs and other relevant materials;

4. *Also urges* all States to undertake measures to ensure the safety and security of international urban search and rescue teams operating in their territory;

5. *Further urges* all States that have the capacity to provide international urban search and rescue assistance to take the necessary measures to ensure that international urban search and rescue teams under their responsibility are deployed and operate in accordance with internationally developed standards as specified in the Guidelines of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, particularly concerning timely deployment, self-sufficiency, training, operating procedures and equipment, and cultural awareness;

6. *Reaffirms* the leadership role of the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator in supporting the authorities of the affected State, upon their request, in coordinating multilateral assistance in the aftermath of disasters;

7. *Encourages* the strengthening of cooperation among States at the regional and subregional levels in the field of disaster preparedness and response with particular respect to capacity-building at all levels;

8. *Also encourages* Member States, with the facilitation of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and in cooperation with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, to continue efforts to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, including the further development of common standards;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, a comprehensive, updated report with recommendations on progress in the improvement of efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, taking into account the extent of utilization of the Guidelines of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 21 (a)

**Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian
and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations,
including special economic assistance:
strengthening of the coordination of emergency
humanitarian assistance of the United Nations**

Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

**Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international
urban search and rescue assistance**

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

**Bangladesh, Brazil, France, Gabon, Ireland, Israel, Madagascar and United
Republic of Tanzania**





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
11 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 44

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration as the outcome of the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, held at Headquarters from 6 to 8 September 2000 as well as its resolutions 55/162 of 14 December 2000 and 56/95 of 14 December 2001, and its follow-up,

Recognizing the important contributions made by the conferences and special sessions, in particular the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Doha, the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg,

Reaffirming the importance of the implementation and follow-up of the Millennium Declaration in a comprehensive, integrated, coordinated and balanced manner at national, regional and international levels,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;¹
2. *Recognizes* the uneven progress made so far in achieving the objectives agreed upon in the Millennium Declaration and urges Member States to continue to undertake with determination appropriate measures towards its implementation;
3. *Invites* the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization and encourages other interested parties, including civil society and the private sector, to continue to pursue vigorously the achievement of the objectives and goals contained in the Millennium Declaration;

¹ A/57/270 and Corr.1.



4. *Also invites* the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization to engage in the review of the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and, in this context, requests the Secretary-General to include in his next report information on the support to be provided by the United Nations system in this regard;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to support, as appropriate, the measures set forth in the thematic sections of the report on preventing armed conflict, and the treatment and prevention of major diseases, including HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis;

6. *Decides* to consider, at its fifty-eighth session, convening a high-level plenary meeting during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly on the review of the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and consideration of the quinquennial comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the progress achieved towards implementing the Millennium Declaration;

7. *Also decides* that the review process of the implementation of the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration will be considered within the framework of the integrated and coordinated follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields while taking into account the need to attach more importance, coherence and visibility to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and its review process;

8. *Invites* the United Nations system, in cooperation with Member States, to promote awareness of the Millennium Declaration, and the development goals contained therein, through increased dissemination of information and widespread publicity;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit".



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
11 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 21 (b)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Bangladesh, Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Liberia, Luxembourg, Romania, Senegal, Somalia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/232 of 21 December 1990, 46/147 of 17 December 1991, 47/154 of 18 December 1992, 48/197 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 E of 20 December 1994, 50/58 A of 12 December 1995, 51/30 B of 5 December 1996, 52/169 E of 16 December 1997, 53/11 of 16 November 1998 and 55/176 of 19 December 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,¹

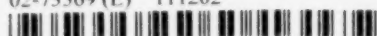
Commending the Economic Community of West African States and the United Nations for their collaborative efforts with the Government of Liberia in its peace-building objectives,

Emphasizing its great concern over the grave humanitarian and security situation prevailing in Liberia, which holds serious implications for security in the subregion,

1. *Expresses its gratitude to the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, the Economic Community of West African States and non-governmental organizations for their valuable support in the provision of humanitarian assistance and their adoption of a comprehensive approach to peace-building in Liberia and the subregion;*

2. *Calls upon all parties involved in the ongoing conflict to respect fully the provisions of international humanitarian law and, in this regard, to ensure safe and*

¹ A/57/301.



unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations throughout the territory of Liberia and the safety of United Nations and humanitarian personnel;

3. *Expresses its gratitude* to all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their assistance and support for the peace-building process in Liberia, and urges that such assistance be continued;

4. *Invites* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide assistance, as appropriate, to Liberia to facilitate the creation of an enabling environment for the promotion of peace, regional security and socio-economic development;

5. *Urges* the Government of Liberia to provide an enabling environment for the promotion of socio-economic development and a culture of sustained peace in the country, including a commitment to upholding the rule of law, national reconciliation and human rights, establishing inclusive processes that will ensure free and fair presidential and general elections in October 2003 and encourage maximum participation, to contribute to reducing tension and promoting sustainable and peaceful political development in the subregion;

6. *Also urges* the Government of Liberia, the United Nations system and all States to strengthen their commitment in responding to the humanitarian needs of the Liberian people;

7. *Renews* its appeal to the Government of Liberia to cooperate with the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations in addressing the need for rehabilitation and reconstruction, and stresses the need for the Government of Liberia to assist and protect the civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons, regardless of their origin;

8. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his continuing efforts to mobilize international assistance for the development and reconstruction of Liberia, and requests him to continue his efforts to mobilize all possible assistance within the United Nations system to help in the reconstruction and development of Liberia, including the return and reintegration of refugees, displaced persons and demobilized soldiers;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to consider the question of international assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia at its fifty-ninth session.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 21 (b)

**Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian
and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations,
including special economic assistance: special
economic assistance to individual countries or regions**

**Bangladesh, Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Egypt,
Ethiopia, Liberia, Luxembourg, Romania, Senegal, Somalia and United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution**

Assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

**Austria, Belgium, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Madagascar,
Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands and Togo**





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
11 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 21 (a)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, China, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela: draft resolution

International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, and its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 54/219 and 54/233 of 22 December 1999, 55/163 of 14 December 2000 and 56/103 of 14 December 2001, and recalling agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the Economic and Social Council¹ and Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2002/32 of 26 July 2002,

Recognizing the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Emphasizing that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

Emphasizing also the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts in order to minimize the impact of natural disasters,

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.*



Welcoming the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,

Stressing that national authorities need to enhance the resilience of populations to disasters through the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction so as to reduce risks to people, their livelihoods, social and economic infrastructure, and environment resources,

Welcoming the efforts of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme to strengthen the coordination of their activities in the field of disaster prevention, mitigation and management,

Emphasizing the importance of raising awareness among developing countries of the capacities existing at the national, regional and international levels that could be deployed to assist them,

Also emphasizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, including prevention, preparedness, mitigation and recovery and reconstruction, and of strengthening the response capacity of affected countries,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States, with facilitation by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and in cooperation with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, to improve the efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, and in this context noting its resolution 57/___ entitled "Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance",

Mindful of the effects that shortfalls in resources can have on the preparedness for and response to natural disasters,

1. *Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development² and on strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;³*

2. *Expresses its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;*

3. *Calls upon all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effective necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, inter alia, by disaster prevention, including building regulations and appropriate land use, as well as disaster preparedness and capacity-building in disaster response and mitigation, and requests the international community to continue to assist developing countries, as appropriate, in this regard;*

4. *Stresses, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation, particularly through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms, in the provision of humanitarian assistance for all phases of a disaster, from relief and mitigation to development, including through the provision of adequate resources;*

² A/57/578.

5. *Stresses also* that humanitarian assistance for natural disasters should be provided in accordance with and with due respect for the guiding principles contained in the annex to resolution 46/182 and should be determined on the basis of the human dimension and needs arising out of the particular natural disasters;

6. *Recognizes* that economic growth and sustainable development contribute to improving the capacity of States to mitigate, respond to and prepare for natural disasters;

7. *Reaffirms* that disaster risk analysis and vulnerability reduction forms an integral part of sustainable development strategies and needs to be considered in development plans of all vulnerable countries and communities, including, where appropriate, in plans relating to the transition from relief to development, and also affirms that within such preventive strategies, disaster preparedness and early warning systems must be further strengthened at country and regional levels, inter alia, through better coordination among relevant United Nations bodies and cooperation with Governments of affected countries and regional and other relevant organizations with the aim of maximizing the effectiveness of natural disaster response and reducing the impact of natural disasters, particularly in developing countries;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of enhanced international cooperation, including with the United Nations and regional organizations, to assist developing countries in their efforts to build capacities, to predict, prepare and respond to natural disasters;

9. *Stresses* the need for partnership among Governments of the affected countries, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant humanitarian organizations and specialized companies to promote training to strengthen preparedness for and response to natural disasters;

10. *Stresses also* the need to promote the access to and transfer of technology related to early warning systems and to mitigation programmes to developing countries affected by natural disasters;

11. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate;

12. *Also encourages* in such operations the sharing of geographical data, including remotely sensed images and geographic information system and global positioning system data among Governments, space agencies and relevant international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, and also notes in that context initiatives such as those undertaken by the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters and the Global Disaster Information Network;

13. *Stresses* that particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, regional and subregional capacities of developing countries for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, more efficiently and at lower cost;

³ A/57/77-E/2002/63.

14. *Welcomes* the role of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for the promotion and coordination of disaster response among the United Nations humanitarian agencies and other humanitarian partners;

15. *Also welcomes* the establishment of the positions of regional disaster response advisers by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs as well as the initiative of the United Nations Development Programme to establish regional disaster reduction adviser positions, and encourages the further development of these initiatives in a coordinated and complementary manner in order to assist developing countries in capacity-building for disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation and response;

16. *Encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations system and regional organizations in order to increase the capacity of these organizations to respond to natural disasters;

17. *Encourages* States that have not signed or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations, adopted at Tampere, Finland, on 18 June 1998,⁴ to consider doing so;

18. *Invites* the United Nations system to explore further the concept of transitional recovery teams for providing assistance for bridging relief assistance and development cooperation;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with relevant organizations and partners, to continue progress on compiling a directory of disaster mitigation capacity at the national, regional and international levels as well as the Directory of Advanced Technologies for Disaster Response as a new part of the Central Register of Disaster Management Capacities;⁵

20. *Welcomes* the global review of disaster reduction initiatives coordinated by the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and emphasizes the importance of periodic review as means of discussing disaster trends, assessing policies aimed at mitigating the impact of disaster and offering examples of successful initiatives;

21. *Encourages* donors to consider the importance of ensuring that assistance in the case of higher profile natural disasters does not come at the expense of those that may have a relatively lower profile, bearing in mind that the allocation of resources should be driven by needs, as well as the importance of making efforts to increase the level of assistance for disaster reduction and preparedness programmes and for disaster response and mitigation activities;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine the overall situation regarding the mobilization of resources for response to natural disasters and to consider concrete recommendations to improve the international response to natural disasters, as necessary, based on his examination, keeping in mind also the need to address any geographical and sectoral imbalances and shortfalls in such responses where they exist, as well as the more effective use of national emergency response agencies, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

⁴ United Nations Treaty registration No. 27688.

⁵ http://www.reliefweb.int/ocha_ol/programs/response/register.html.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 21 (a)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, China, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela: draft resolution

International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America

